

## WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- Sub 237
1. A bag for carrying a ball having an outer member defining an exterior surface and configured in the shape of a ball and having an opening positioned therein for inserting and removing a ball therefrom, said bag comprising
    - a handle operatively connected in a predetermined position to said outer member at a location other than the opening; and
    - a fastening member located within said opening and extending in a selected direction on said outer member wherein at least a portion thereof extends in a direction substantially perpendicular to said handle, said handle being positioned to refrain from interfering with the inserting and removing of a ball from the bag.
  2. The bag of claim 1 wherein the configured shape of a ball is in the shape of a round ball.
  3. The bag of claim 1 wherein the configured shape of a ball is in the shape of a basketball.
  4. The bag of claim 1 wherein the configured shape of a ball is in the shape of a baseball.
  5. The bag of claim 1 wherein the configured shape of a ball is in the shape of a soccer ball.
  6. The bag of claim 1 wherein the configured shape of a ball is in the shape of a football.
  7. The bag of claim 1 further comprising
    - at least one outer pocket positioned on the exterior surface of said outer member at a location other than the opening and having an entryway enabling the insertion and removal of an article from said one outer pocket.
  - Sub 237 8. The bag of claim 1 wherein said one outer pocket is formed of a solid fabric.

9. The bag of claim 1 wherein said one outer pocket is formed of a mesh fabric.

Sub B5 10. The bag of claim 7 wherein said one outer pocket includes an interior cavity and said entryway communicates with and provides access to said interior cavity.

11. The bag of claim 7 wherein said entryway includes a zipper which has an open position and a closed position, said zipper when in an open position affording access to the interior cavity of said one outer pocket.

Sub B6 12. The bag of claim 7 further comprising a flap operatively connected to at least one of said entryway and said exterior surface of the outer surface, said flap having an open position and a closed position, said flap when in an open position affording access through said entryway to the interior cavity of said one outer pocket.

Sub B7 13. The bag of claim 7 wherein said outer pocket includes a second fastening member which cooperates with a mating member located on at least one of a flap and exterior surface of the outer member.

Sub B8 14. The bag of claim 7 wherein said second fastening member and said mating member are mating elements defining a Velcro fastener.

Sub B9 15. The bag of claim 7 wherein said second fastening member is at least one of a button and a button hole and said mating member is the other of said at least one of a button and a button hole.

16. The bag of claim 7 wherein said second fastening member is at least one of a rotatable fastener and an aperture for receiving a rotatable fastener and said mating member is the

other of said at least one of a rotatable fastener and an aperture for receiving a rotatable fastener.

17. The bag of claim 9 wherein said mesh fabric is formed of a elastic material.

Sub 97  
13 18. A bag for holding a ball comprising  
an outer member having an exterior surface configured in the shape of a ball and defining an inner enclosed space, said exterior surface including an opening formed therein in a selected direction and in communication with said inner enclosed space for affording the insertion and removal of ball therefrom;

a carrying handle having a first end and a second end operatively connected in a predetermined position to said outer member at a location other than the opening; and

a fastening member having an open and a closed position, said fastening member being operatively connected to said opening wherein at least a portion thereof extends in a direction substantially perpendicular to said first end and said second end of the carrying handle and being adapted to make said opening an unsecured opening when said fastening member is in the open position and adapted to make said opening a secured opening when said fastening member is in a closed position.

19. The bag of claim 18 having at least one outer pocket positioned on said exterior surface of the outer member at a location other than said opening and spaced from said carrying handle, said at least one outer pocket having an entryway enabling the insertion and removal of an article from said at least one outer pocket independent of a ball being located in said inner enclosed space.

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*SUB 11* 20. The bag of claim 18 wherein said carrying handle is positioned at least substantially perpendicular to at least a portion of said opening.

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